(b) how many staff members of the scheme are Central Government employees;

(o) whether there is uniformity of pay scales throughout the country for the personnel of the scheme; and

(d) if not, what steps are being taken for bringing about uniformity in the pay scales for the personnel of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BHAGEY GOB ARDH AN); (a) to (d). Personnel have been, provided for different schemes of the adult education programme under implementation in all States/Union Territories. As the administrative and supervisory control of the schemes rest with the States/Union Territories, the selection, training and placement of the project functionaries is done by them according to the rules formulated by each State/Union Territory.

Promotional avenues for SO/ST employees in Vayudoot

1157. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of CTVIL AVIATION be pleased to state-

(a) what are the promotional avenues for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tr'bes technical and nontechnical officers and staff working in Vayudoot Ltd; New Delhi;

(b) what are the details of various SC/ST oncers and staff promoted to higher scale from 1-1-1989 till date;

(c) whether Government are considering more promotional avenues for SC/ST emr/ovees through special recruitment: and

(d) if SO. whatt steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CTVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN): (a) Reservations in recruitments and pro-motions in Vayudoot Limited to SC/ ST candidates are provided in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Government.

(b) The number of SC and ST employees promoted from 1-1-89 till date is 13 and 1 respectively. The details are as under:

Group	SC	ST
'A'	. NIL	NT I
'B*	. NIL	NIL
'C	. 10	1
'D'	. 3	NIL
TOTAL	. 13	1

(c) Special recruitment of SC/ST candidates is made to fill up backlog of reserved vacancies and not as **a** measure of providing more promotional avenues.

(d) Does not arise.

Use of LP Gas in Cars

1158. SHRlJITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT: Will the Minister of PETEROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that an Engineer, Mr. V. R. Patel of Himatnagar in Sabarkantha district of Gujarat has recently developed a car that. runs on LP Gas instead of petrol and can give pver 250 Kms. per cylinder; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIA. MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) LPG can be used in automobiles in replacement of motor spirit. However; the use of LPG as fuel in transport sector is not being encouraged, as its indigenous production is not adequate

to meet the demand of the domestic consumers and LPG is being imported to meet the shortfall.

Royalty on Crude Oil

1159. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LAB-SHANKER BHATT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the rates of royalty on crude oil for the period 1. 4. 87 to 31. 3. 90 and 1. 4. 90 to 31. 3. 1993;

(b) if so, whether this is an ad hoc revision pending fixation of intrinsic value of crude oil by an independent body; and

(c) what is the constitution and terms of reference of that independent body?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The Government have taken a decision to revise the rate of royalty on crude oil for the period on 1. 4. 87 to 31. 3. 90. The revised rate is Rs. 314j- per tonne.

(b) and (c) The revision of oil royalty from 1. 4. 87 to 1. 4. 90 is not an ad hoc revision. The Government have also decided to set up a Committee to examine the issue of fixation of rate of royalty for the period beyond 31. 3. 90.

The Committee which would have three members would have the following terms of reference: —

(1) To examine the various issues pertaining to revision in the rate of royalty on crude oil and §as> keeping in′ view:

(i) The need for large investments in the oil and gas sector to reduce the dependence on imports of oil and petroleum products in the coming decade.

(ii) present policy of total reliance on internal resource generation and non-availability of budgetary support for such investments;

(ui) principles followed in the revision in the rate of royalty for various other minerals;

(iv) augmentation of State revenues by way of sales tax and other taxes due to larger availability of oil and gas through increased investments in this sector and increased economic and industrial activity therefrom.

(v) submissions of the State Governments concerned; and

(vi) any other matter germane to the issue.

(2) To recommend specific principles for periodic revision in the rate of royalty so as to do away with the revision in the rate of royalty on *ad hoc* basis; and

(3) To suggest the periodicity for •revision in the rate of royalty, keeping in view the general recommendation of the Sarkaria commission on the subject.

Securing replies of Special Mentions made in the Rajya Sabha

1160. SHRI M. M. JACOB: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFAFIRS be pleased to state:

(a) in how many Special Mention cases made by the Members of the Rajya Sabha during 1989-90 replies from the respective Ministries are yet to be received and what is the normal time taken by the Ministries to send replies to the members in such cases;

(b) whether any follow-up action is taken by his Ministry to secure replies to the members; and

(c) what steps are proposed to secure speedy replies to the members?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) During